

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11

OMB-01 IO-13 TRSE-00 EUR-12 /092 W

-----019182 050912Z /17

R 050820Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0635

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 2983

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, SN, VM, CH

SUBJECT: SINGAPOREAN VIEWS OF VIETNAM-CHINA DISPUTE

1. S. DHANABALAN, SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE CURRENT VIETNAM-CHINA DISPUTE WITH ME AT THE JULY FOURTH RECEPTION. DHANABALAN COMMENTED THAT IT SEEMED OBVIOUS THE CHINESE WERE THE ONES PRESSING THE DISPUTE, APPARENTLY SEEKING TO HUMILIATE THE VIETNAMESE. HANOI, FOR ITS PART, APPEARED TO BE TAKING CONCILIATORY LINE. DHANABALAN FOUND IT HARD TO FATHOM PEKING'S MOTIVE IN GOING AFTER THE VIETNAMESE SO STRONGLY. THE CHINESE PRESUMABLY SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN KEEPING THE VIETNAMESE FROM FALLING ENTIRELY WITHIN THE SOVIET ORBIT, HE S, YET ANYONE COULD SEE THAT THE TACTICS THEY WERE USING AGAINST HANOI WOULD HAVE EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE EFFECT.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH A SOPHISTICATED ECONOMIST, DHANABALAN
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IS NOT ONE OF THE SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT'S ANALYSTS OR FRAMERS OF FOREIGN POLICY. NEVERTHELESS (OR PERHAPS FOR THIS VERY REASON), I EXPECT THAT HIS COMMENTS ARE PROBABLY MORE REFLECTIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION THAN HIS OWN INDEPENDENT THOUGHTS.
INGRAHAM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780794/aaaadbldx.tel
Line Count: 61
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4b03fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2113809
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SINGAPOREAN VIEWS OF VIETNAM-CHINA DISPUTE
TAGS: PGOV, SN, VM, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
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